

MISSIONARY CONVENTIONS

The Brethren churches of the Illiokota district are wide awake on the subject of missions and the efforts put forth by them shows commendable zeal. We are in receipt of a program which announces three missionary conventions, to be held at the following places: Milledgeville, Ill., December 14, 15, 16. Lanark, Ill., December 17, 18, 19. Waterloo, Iowa, December 24, 25, 26. The speakers announced for all the meetings are, Revs. I. D. Bowman, Philadelphia, Pa., Z. T. Livengood, J. L. Gillin and J. O. Talley who is president of the National Mission Board, and secretary of the district in which he resides. Following are the subjects to be treated. The Holy Spirit, His Power and Work; The Evangelization of the world; The Gifts of the Holy Spirit; The Second Coming of Christ; Christ in Prophecy; Bible Consecration; Bible Sanctification. Song services, prayer and testimony meetings will be an important item of the program. These meetings will prove a great power for good, and unless we are mistaken, the whole church will feel the influence of these gatherings. The subjects chosen for discussion are excellent and the speakers abundantly qualified to deal with these great biblical questions. In addition to the above speakers, brethren McFaden and Harrison are expected to deliver addresses. Such conventions should be held throughout the entire brotherhood. By the way, we shall look for a full report of these meetings.

Personal Mention

The meeting at Rosena, Calif., by Brother Shively closed with one accession.

Brother and Sister Miller are home from Hiram College for a short vacation.

Brother Fogle, New Market, Va., writes an interesting letter of the meeting near that place.

Brother M. S. White reports four accessions at Gretna, Ohio, one of his regular appointments.

On November 21, Brother Hall closed a meeting at the Pike congregation with three accessions.

Brother Hubbard has been chosen pastor for the second year, by the congregation at Elkhart, Ind.

Brother Keifer reports a successful meeting at Zion Hill church. When last heard from there were nine accessions.

Brother P. S. Garman is doing missionary work in the south. The work as reported in this issue is very commendable.

Sister Laura Grossnickle informs us that she has had enough calls from Virginia for revival work to engage her time all winter.

The article a few weeks ago entitled, "Science and Religion," by M. A. Witter, should have been credited to the author, C. O. Witter.

When last heard from Brother Darling was confined to his bed on account of sickness. His meeting at Moxham closed with twelve accessions.

Brother J. L. Kimmel has closed a very successful meeting at Louisville, Ohio, resulting in eleven accessions. We rejoice in his success but are sorry to learn of his very narrow escape from a destructive

fire. For his escape we are thankful. The events following the fire show the hold Brother Kimmel has on the people in his city. In this also we rejoice.

Brother Jacob W. Beer writes that Brother Kimmel is holding a meeting at McLouth, Kan., and they enjoy his good, sympathetic gospel sermons.

We thank Sister Royer, Alcott, Col., for these words: "I like the paper very much; I think the prayer topics and notes on the K. C. alone worth the price of the paper."

On December 13th, Brother Gillin took another G. B. into the church at Enon, Iowa. On the same day he left for Milledgeville and Lanark to assist in the missionary conventions at those places.

One accession at Syracuse, Ind., Brother Wirick preaching. The sisters and young people of that place are making a scripture quilt for Brother McFaden. Just what a "scripture quilt" is we do not know.

Brother Gillin writes that the Bible school at Enon closed December 10th, with a growing interest and attendance. He says it was a success both outwardly and in spiritual results. Brother Livengood labored earnestly with them both in the school and also at night preaching.

Brother D. E. Ronk, Turlock, Calif., writes the following brief but telling letter: "Two dollars whenever it may be needed." Thanks, brother, we had two applications from worthy poor for the paper, and to them this amount will justly pay each for one year. They will rejoice and be glad to have the paper, and the reward will be yours.

Brother W. L. Ditch writes: "Please continue the EVANGELIST to me. I will pay at my earliest opportunity. The paper gets better and better. Can not do without it even if it costs \$3.00." Thanks. Brother Ditch's address now is, Logansport, Ind., 508 Melbourne Ave. On December 16, he was engaged in revival work at Twelve Mile with one accession.

Brother Welty writes: "Only three here who do not take the EVANGELIST. What a blessing they miss. To my knowledge this is the most praiseworthy paper the church has ever had. It is remarkable to note the indifference and lack of interest of those who do not read the EVANGELIST." Brother Welty is making a success of his work at Bryan. He is an enthusiastic supporter of all the institutions of the church."

At Union Chapel, seven miles south of New Market, Va., Brother Shaver held a thirteen days' meeting resulting in twenty accessions by baptism. One year ago the Brethren had no members there, now there is a membership of forty. Before leaving the place, Brother Shaver had three solicitors in the field for funds with which to build a house of worship. One more was added at Dayton by baptism.

Brother Bemenderfer says, "The EVANGELIST is fine. I have it in every family in the Dunlaps congregation, but one, and they promised to take it before long, besides I send it to one family who are not members of the church." We thank Brother Bemenderfer for his kind words and good works. His are not words only as you notice. He likes the paper and as proof, all his members are reading it.

We take the following from the *Meyersdale Commercial*, concerning which we may have more to say in the future: "It will be seen elsewhere that Rev. Dr. Mackey announces services for Sunday next. Dr. Mackey has been confined to the house for a week or more with grippe and nervous prostration but is, we are glad to say, improving. He presented his resignation November 8th to take effect April 1, 1898. His future is yet uncertain. He has college work, foreign missions, canvass, calls to pastorates in Ohio and California to consider, but we think he would prefer a charge requiring about half his time, permitting him to devote the other half to the field. As it is he will remain with us 'till April, which will give him time to decide upon his future course."

Notes and Comments

Keep Ahead.—The Rev. Dr. Dixon thinks that to keep abreast of the times one needs to keep abreast with the devil. That might imply walking with him, and we would suggest that it were better to keep ahead of him. In one thing the Dr. is right: The devil is a "living issue," and like the poor, is always with humanity. In a recent sermon on "The Lord God of Elijah," the Dr. gives this advice to young men:

Don't preach of things people talk of in the omnibuses. Next week they'll be talking of something else, and all your talking will have gone for naught. Preach truth, as Elijah did. That is eternal. Strike for the living issues, for they exist as they did in Elijah's day. Sin is a living issue, sorrow is a living issue; the broken heart and blasted home and ruined life are living issues. If you want to keep abreast of the times you must keep abreast with the devil. You'll find him always a living issue.

A Wise Law.—The following from the *Christian Advocate* shows progress in the right direction:

Connecticut has adopted a constitutional amendment providing that all voters must be able to read, in the English language, any article of the constitution or any section of the statutes of the State. So far as heard from, every city and town in the State voted in its favor. This is a step upward. No one is fit for free government who will not take the pains to learn to read. Any man of sense under sixty years of age, can learn to read in three months by taking only the time that he habitually wastes, and many could do it by taking half the time they spend in idleness or dissipation.

A Needed Caution.—The church of Christ is in the world but not of the world. The church should be separate from the world, yet reach out to save it. Dr. Berry, of England, at a recent public meeting in this country gave this much needed caution: "The danger is, that the drowning man will clutch the rescuer and both will sink. It must not be so with the church. The church must clutch the world firmly and lift it up, not be dragged down by it."

The Great Commission.—These are great words from David Livingston:

It is something to be a missionary. The morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy when they first saw the field which the first missionary was to fill. The great and terrible God, before whom angels veil their faces, had an only Son, and He was sent to the earth as a missionary Physician. It is something to be a follower, however feeble, in the wake of the great Teacher and only model Missionary that ever appeared among men; and now that He is head over all things, King of kings and Lord of lords, what commission is equal to that which the missionary holds for Him? May we venture to invite young men of education, when laying down the plan of their lives, to take a glance at that of the missionary?

Christmas and New Year Holiday Excursion Rates
Via the Baltimore & Ohio R. R.

On December 24, 25, and 31, 1897, and January 1, 1898, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad will sell Excursion Tickets to all points in Central Passenger Association territory at very low rates. Tickets will be good for return until January 1, 1898.

For further information call on or address any B. & O. Ticket Agent, or B. N. Austin, Gen'l Pass'r Agent, Chicago, Ill.